



Why Cleanup Is Necessary

There is no immediate health risk because the public is not exposed to the contaminated soil. Long-term exposure, however, to elevated levels of lead and pesticides, can cause adverse health effects. In order to protect future students and staff of the new school, the DTSC recommended that the school district prepare a cleanup plan to lawfully remove and dispose of the contaminated soil. The DTSC will oversee the cleanup that will take place prior to construction of the new school and will ensure that it is performed in a manner that does not harm people or the environment.

Environmental Investigations

During the investigations conducted between May 2009 and April 2011, elevated concentrations of lead and organochlorine pesticides were found in soil at the site.

Lead from Lead-Based Paint

Lead is often found in soils around houses built before 1979. Since 1979, federal laws do not allow lead-based paint to be sold in the United States.

Pesticides

Pesticides were often used around and under older homes primarily for termite control.

Proposed Cleanup Options

The following three Cleanup Options were considered for this site:

Alternative I - No Further Action

Alternative 2 - Surface Capping

Alternative 3 - Removal and Off-Site Disposal

Based on careful analysis of the options,

Alternative 3 - Removal and Off-Site Disposal is recommended for the proposed school project. Alternative 3 is permanent, as it removes the hazard to levels considered protective, and is time-efficient for the project. Details of the removal action alternatives are listed in the RAW.

The contaminated soil will be dug out using heavy equipment, and other types of earth moving equipment, as necessary. The soil will be temporarily stored in covered

stockpiles on site while coordinating disposal and then the soil will be loaded into trucks, covered, and taken off-site to be disposed at a licensed facility. After the contaminated soil is removed, samples will be collected to confirm that the contamination has been removed to the levels established in the Cleanup Goals.

Safety & Dust Control During Cleanup

The following actions will be implemented during this process to ensure public safety and minimize dust:

- Install temporary fencing with windscreens for security and dust control
- Drive all vehicles at slow speeds while on the site
- Spray work areas with clean water to control dust
- Secure trucks with covers before they leave the site
- Cleaning all truck tires entering and exiting the site. Trucks will have their tires brushed to remove soils and debris as necessary to control offsite contamination
- Monitoring the air at the site will be completed to ensure the amount of dust is kept to a minimum.

Proposed Transportation Route for Trucks

About 328 cubic yards of contaminated soil is estimated to be removed and taken off-site for disposal. It is estimated to take up to 20 truckloads to remove the contaminated soil from the site.

Trucks will leave the site and proceed west on W. Baseline Street to N. California Street, proceeding north to W. Highland Avenue to N. State Street then south to the West Foothill Freeway (State Route 210) The waste will be delivered to a state licensed disposal facility. Work will be limited to the hours between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday-Saturday in accordance with the City of San Bernardino Noise Ordinance. The cleanup process is expected to take about 20 working days.

California Environmental Quality Act

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC has prepared a draft Notice of Exemption (NOE) for this project. The NOE states

that the proposed cleanup will not have a significant negative effect on human health or the environment. The clean up process will be a relatively short duration. The handling of the contaminated soils will be controlled and should not affect the general public. All truck loads will be covered. Traffic will be controlled leaving the site to ensure neighbors have access to the streets surrounding the site.

Next Steps

At the close of the public comment period, DTSC will review and consider any public comments and ensure any necessary revisions to the draft RAW are completed, prior to final approval. Also, a Response to Comments document will be mailed to everyone who makes a comment and who provides their name and address. The soil removal project is expected to take place in the fall of 2011.

After the cleanup process is completed, soil testing will be completed to confirm cleanup goals have been reached, and a Removal Action Completion Report will be submitted to the DTSC for review and approval

Where to Find the Documents

The Draft RAW and other related documents for proposed Graciano Gomez (Alessandro II) Elementary School are available for review at the following locations:

Norman F. Feldheim Central Library
Reference Desk
555 W. 5th Street
San Bernardino, CA 92410
Phone: (909) 381-8221

San Bernardino City Unified School District
Facilities Management
956 W. 9th Street
San Bernardino, California 92411
(909) 388-6100

Department of Toxic Substances Control
Regional Records Office
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630
Call (714) 484-5337 for an appointment
Hours: 8 am - 5 pm Monday – Friday

Site documents are also available for your review at: www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov

All documents made available to the public by the DTSC can be made available in alternate format (i.e. Braille, large print, etc.) or in another language as appropriate, in accordance with State and Federal law. Please contact Jeanne Matsumoto for assistance.

Who to Contact for Information

If you have any questions about the project or cleanup activities, please contact:

Rana Georges
Project Manager
(714) 484-5320, rgeorges@dtsc.ca.gov

Jeanne Matsumoto
Public Participation Specialist
(866) 495-5651, press 4 then press 6
jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov

For media inquiries, please contact:

Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
(818) 717-6573, jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals

TDD users can obtain additional information about the proposed H. Frank Dominguez Elementary School Project by calling the California State Relay Service at (888) 877-5378 to reach DTSC Public Participation Specialist, Jeanne Matsumoto at (714) 484-5338.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

COMMENT FORM

Proposed Graciano Gomez Elementary School Project (Alessandro II) San Bernardino, California

You may use this sheet to:

- ☐ send us your comments
- ☐ be added to or taken off the mailing list

If you use this form to send us your comments, please include your name and address. All written comments must be postmarked no later than September 1, 2011. Please send this form to:

Jeanne Matsumoto, Public Participation Specialist
Dept. of Toxic Substances Control, 5796 Corporate Ave, Cypress, CA 90630

You may also email this same information to: jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov

___ Please take me off the mailing list

___ Please add me to the mailing list

Name: _____

Address: _____

Affiliation (if any): _____

E-mail (optional) _____ Phone number (optional): _____

Comments (attach additional pages if needed) _____

Our mailing lists and your comments are considered public records and, if requested, may be subject to release.